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**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

Please cancel claims 12-18 and 20 from further consideration herein; and amend claim 9.

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

**LISTING OF THE CLAIMS**

1. (Canceled).
2. (Canceled).
3. (Canceled).

4. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 19, in which there are multiple sets of the successive stations arrayed along parallel paths and the steps (a) to (g) are performed on a common metal strip which is advanced along said sets of successive stations.

5. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 19 wherein the flexible connections are formed as multiple strips connecting the periphery of the blanks to the thin metal strip.

6. (Previously Amended) A method of forming a container end comprising the steps of:

- a) providing a strip of metal;
- b) forming blanks in the metal strip wherein each blank is connected to the strip via a plurality of integral carrying strips between the blanks and the strip;
- c) forming the blanks into cup form including an open edge;
- d) forming a dome shaped region in the open edge of the cup form;
- e) forming a neck with a closed end on the cup form above the dome shaped region;

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- f) piercing the closed end of the neck top to form a neck opening having a lip;
- g) forming a curl on the neck lip to define a pour opening;
- h) forming multiple thread lug sections spaced circumferentially around said neck and protruding outward from the neck; and
- i) severing the formed blanks from the strip.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 6 wherein steps (a) to (f) are performed sequentially at successive stations.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 78 further comprising the step of advancing the strip from one station to the next between the forming steps.

10. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 6 wherein the thread lug section forming step (g) includes the steps of reforming portions of the wall of the neck into a plurality of thread lugs extending outwardly from the neck in predetermined alignment.

11. (Original) The method of claim 6, comprising the further step of providing multiple sets of successive stations arrayed along parallel paths.

- 12. (Canceled).
- 13. (Canceled).
- 14. (Canceled).
- 15. (Canceled).
- 16. (Canceled).
- 17. (Canceled).
- 18. (Canceled).

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19. (Previously Presented) In a method of forming a container end, the steps of

- a) feeding a thin strip of metal along a predetermined path;
- b) forming disc shaped blanks from the thin strip of metal;
- c) creating integral flexible connections between the blanks and the thin strip of metal, the flexible connections extending from the outer edge of each blank to the edge of the surrounding material from which the blank is formed;
- d) forming the blanks into inverted cup forms including a closed end and an open edge attached to the strip of material
- e) forming a dome region on the closed end of each cup form;
- f) forming a neck including a cylindrical wall extending upwardly of the dome region and an opening at the top of the neck defined by a lip;
- g) forming an outwardly extending curl on the lip around the opening;
- h) forming multiple thread lugs around and protruding outward from the neck by reforming portions of the wall of the neck into a plurality of circumferentially aligned spaced apart lugs projecting outwardly from the neck in predetermined alignment about the neck and at a predetermined spacing from said curl, and continuing with steps a) to g); whereby steps a) to g) are performed sequentially at successive stations and the thin metal strip is advanced from one station to the next between the forming steps.

20. (Canceled).